

REMARKS

In the Final Office Action of December 29, 2005, claims 59, 60, 63-66, 68-70, 72-76, and 78-83 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Jones et al.* (US 2004/0254863, hereafter *Jones*). Applicants note with appreciation that the Examiner indicated that claims 84 and 85 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In the current response, independent claims 59 and 73 have been amended and claims 84 and 85 have been canceled. Accordingly, claims 59, 60, 63-66, 68-70, 72-76, and 78-83 will be pending in this application.

In the Final Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 59, 60, 63-66, 68-70, 72-76, and 78-83 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Jones*. Applicants have amended independent claims 59 and 73 to include the limitations of claims 84 and 85, respectively. As such, claims 84 and 85 have been rewritten in independent form as independent claims 59 and 73, respectively, that include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Thus, Applicants submit that independent claims 59 and 73 are in allowable form.

Claims 60, 63-66, 68-70, and 72 are dependent, either directly or indirectly, on claim 59 and allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 59. Claims 74-76 and 78 are dependent on claim 73 and allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 73.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that the claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the rejections is requested. Allowance is earnestly solicited at the earliest possible date.

Respectfully submitted,

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